

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4 Canceled without prejudice.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a hydrogen test leak unit comprising the steps of:

disposing an elastomeric membrane into a chamber of the hydrogen test leak unit;

introducing a test gas mixture of hydrogen and at least one added gas wherein the added gas has a permeation coefficient (P) relative to the material of ~~[[the]]~~said elastomeric membrane ranging between 50% and 200% of that of hydrogen;~~[[.]]~~

maintaining a constant pressure within said chamber through the movement of said elastomeric membrane; and

allowing said test gas mixture to exit said chamber through a test leak outlet without passing through said membrane.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 5, wherein at least one of the group comprising helium, carbon dioxide and methane is selected as the added gas.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 5, wherein the added gas is oxygen-free.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 5, wherein the hydrogen content of the test gas mixture is lower than 10%.